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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Cyril LINNOT et al. Conf. 1031

Application No. 10/567,489 Group 1791

Filed September 25, 2006 Examiner R. Kemmerle III

METHOD FOR PRODUCING A PIECE MADE OF SINTERED AMORPHOUS SILICA, AND MOLD AND SLURRY USED IN THIS METHOD

REQUEST FOR REFUND

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 8, 2009

Sir:

Applicants hereby request that the 37 CFR 1.492(d) of \$220 fee for one (1) extra independent claim over three, be credited to counsel's credit card or Deposit Account No. 25-0120, as such fee was charged in excess pursuant to 37 CFR 1.26.

Specifically, on March 12, 2009 Applicants filed an Amendment which included only **three (3)** independent claims, namely claims 34, 67, and 68. However, the USPTO erroneously charged counsel's credit card \$220 for one extra independent claim over 3. Indeed, a careful review of all other claims will reveal that they are dependent. Claim 46 on line 5 properly depends from claim 34.

Consequently, the USPTO charged counsel's credit card \$220 in excess, and such amount must be refunded.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

/Benoit Castel/

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BC/ml